

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 580

INFO AMCONGEN FRANKFURT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, SCUL, GE, US

SUBJECT: TOUR OF U.S. BY BERLINER ENSEMBLE: OPERATIONAL ASPECTS  
OF VISAING

REF: (A) BERLIN 5214 (NOTAL) (B) STATE 034447 (NOTAL)

DEPARTMENT PASS VO, EUR/CE, CU

FRANKFURT FOR INS

1. GERHARD HEINEMANN, DIRECTOR OF SECTION OF GDR ARTIST AGENCY WHICH DEALS WITH GUEST PERFORMANCES AND BELINER ENSEMBLE, CAME TO EMBASSY MARCH 20 WITH PASSPORTS AND VISA APPLICATIONS FOR ADVANCE TEAM OF FIVE PERSONS SCHEDULED TO FLY TO NEW YORK NEXT WEEK FOR PLANNING DISCUSSIONS WITH AMERICAN IMPRESSARIO, NINON T. KARLWEISS OF 250 E. 56TH ST., NYC 10021. (VISAS EAGLE - POST CHECK FOLLOWS SEPTEL)

2. HEINEMANN SAID BERLINER ENSEMBLE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO PERFORM IN BROOKLYN UNDER SPONSORSHIP OF BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND AT KENNEDY CENTER IN WASHINGTON IN LATTER HALF OF NOVEMBER. GROUP WILL INCLUDE 140-150 PERSONS.

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3. HEINEMANN VISIT PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR EMBOFFS

(WOLF AND LITTEL) TO DISCUSS RECIPROCITY ALONG LINES  
OF PARA 2 OF REFTEL (B). HE PROFSED GREAT INTEREST  
IN RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE VISIT BY AMERICAN GROUP.

4. THE VISAING OF SUCH A LARGE NUMBER IN A SINGLE  
GROUP RAISES CERTAIN OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY  
SINCE MANY OF THEM MAY WELL BE INELIGIBLE UNDER  
212(A)(28). WE STRONGLY URGED HEINEMANN TO DISCUSS  
ENTIRE VISAING PROBLEM WITH IMPRESSARIO KARLWEISS. WE PROPOSE  
TO INITIATE GROUP 212(D)(3) (A) WAIVER PROCEDURES WITH  
INS FRANKFURT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND WILL MEET WITH  
HEINEMANN UPON RETURN OF ADVANCE TEAM TO WORK OUT  
PROCEDURES. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS FROM  
EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (BOLSHOI, MOISEYEV-USSR;  
MAZOWSZE-POLAND; GEWANDTHAUS-GDR) HAVE BEEN PERFORMING  
IN U.S. FOR YEARS, WE ASSUME A PROCEDURE FOR GROUP VISAING  
AND WAIVERING HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED.

5. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO USG SPONSORSHIP OF BERLINER  
ENSEMBLE VISIT, IT IS CLEARLY IN EVERYONE'S INTEREST  
FOR IT TO GO AS SMOOTHLY AS POSSIBLE, BOTH FROM THE  
VISA OPERATIONAL STANDPOINT AND IN THE INTEREST OF T HE  
BEGINNING OF PRIVATE, CULTURAL EXCHANGE.

6. REQUEST COMMENT ON PARA 4 INCLUDING ADVICE ON  
HOW SUCH LARGE GROUPS FROM OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN  
COUNTRIES TRADITIONALLY HANDLED. WE NOTE THAT OUR  
CONSULAR SECTION STILL SPARSELY STAFFED, I.E., ONE  
OFFICER, PART OF ONE LOCAL.COOPER

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